

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation under 35 U.S.C. §120 of Application Serial No. 09/876,341, commonly assigned and now allowed, and is also related to Application Serial No. 09/616,802, entitled *Method & Apparatus for Attaching Connective Tissues to Bone Using a Suture Anchoring Device*, filed on July 14, 2000 and now U.S. Patent No. 6,582,453, and commonly assigned herewith.